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RED SOX SHOULD TAKE LONG LOOK AT HAMILTON {page 21}

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After 10 seemingly endless weeks of watching Obama and Romney fight for America's votes, the decision is finally in our hands Metro looks back at the epic race for world's most powerful job {pages 06-09}

books
Anna Goldfarb can see 'Clearly' now {page 12}

the word
Britney Spears plans to write fiction? Why? {page 10}

style
Which candidate gets your fashion vote? {page 13}

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Boston gets ready for its election night close-up

The Hub is election night central, as Republican nominee Mitt Romney will give speech at Boston Convention Center Sen. Brown, challenger Warren also holding parties in Boston Events mean millions for city

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ The final preparations were being made at the Boston Convention Center yesterday. Mitt Romney will hold his election party there tonight.

The eyes of the nation and the world will be on the Hub tonight — and likely into tomorrow morning — when Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney takes the stage in South Boston to either concede the race or declare victory as the next president of the United States.

Public safety officials, campaign staffers and work crews in South Boston and downtown were hurrying yesterday to ready various ballrooms that will be the backdrop of some of the most closely watched races in the country.

Besides Romney's election night headquarters at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, Sen. Scott Brown planned his election night party for the Park Plaza Hotel. His Democratic challenger Elizabeth Warren will be only a few blocks away tonight at the Fairmont Copley Plaza.

But it's the Romney event that is attracting nearly 1,000 media members and thousands more Republican campaign workers and officials to Boston, which means millions in spending benefits for the city, said Pat Moscaritolo, the president of the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Moscaritolo said the national and international media attention would also be beneficial for Boston in the long run.

At the convention center yesterday afternoon, crews were putting finishing touches on the 40,000-square-foot ballroom where Romney will deliver his speech in front of nearly 4,000 people. Thousands of others will watch the speech in an adjacent ballroom on a TV feed.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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$20M

The estimated amount of total visitor spending by media members, campaign workers and others in town for Mitt Romney's election night party

Quoted

"Whatever was lost as a result of Sandy and what's lost from the Bruins [lockout] — the good news is that we're back even. They balance out really terrifically."

MOSCARITOLO SAID OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE EVENT

▶ Party central

Where to watch tonight

A presidential election only occurs every four years, so if you're looking for a place to soak in the night after you've cast your ballot, here are a couple of options:

• Google and MassINC are hosting an election night party at Legal Sea Foods Harborside from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. The watch party will feature real-time local, state and national results and insights from Google trends and analysis. RSVP suggested, as space is limited.

• A nonpartisan watch party featuring special election-themed cocktails will be held at Towne Stove and Spirits from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. The 21-plus event will offer a live screening of the night's events and complimentary bites.

In the news

387,142

Boston has more than the number of ballots required to satisfy each of the 387,142 registered voters eligible to participate today, city officials said. Since September's primary elections, the city has registered an additional 28,930 voters.

During the 2008 presidential election, 236,525 ballots were cast out of a possible 380,881 registered voters. Boston has a total of 255 precincts and 153 polling locations, which will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. METRO

Today's local tweet

"@Aerosmith thanks for messing up the D line and making me late to work... #boston #mbta"

@JESSDIAZ91 PROBABLY DID NOT CHECK OUT THE FREE AEROSMITH CONCERT YESTERDAY

In the news

IG will take over drug lab probe

MASSACHUSETTS. Inspector General Glenn Cunha will take over Attorney General Martha Coakley's review of operations at the state drug lab, where evidence tampering has cast doubt on the outcomes of thousands of cases.

Gov. Deval Patrick yesterday announced that the state's new inspector general, who led insurance and unemployment fraud and criminal bureau work in Coakley's office, would take over the probe.

Coakley last week volunteered to step away from her look into drug lab operations after legal groups suggested she give up the probe since her office tries drug cases, supports the state police unit that investigates drug cases and also supports drug prosecutions brought by county district attorneys. SHNS

Hit-and-run nets woman $500

SALEM. A hit-and-run crash in Salem last weekend ended with a bizarre offer by a stranger.

A woman reported to police that she was driving late Saturday night and was hit by a pickup truck backing out of a street, according to The Salem News. The truck drove down the road a bit.

While the woman was sitting in her car, a man came up to her passenger window, threw $500 in cash in the car and walked away without saying anything.

The woman called police Sunday and said she spotted the truck near the scene of the crash. Police are investigating.

It was not immediately clear what happened to the $500. METRO

Boston CANshare Campaign lifts off in City Hall Plaza

BOSTON. To mark the start of the 26th annual Boston CANshare Campaign yesterday, the city held a "Man vs. Can" competition at City Hall Plaza, collecting canned goods and pitting some of the city's strongest heavy lifters against each other.

The annual CANshare food drive is sponsored by Mayor Thomas M. Menino, the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Hunger, FedEx, and the Greater Boston Food Bank.

Last year, Bostonians shared about 44,000 pounds of food with local families, according to city officials.

This year's CANshare drive will run until Nov. 30. METRO

Occupy Boston helps out in hurricane aftermath

It's been more than a year since Occupy Boston set up camp at Dewey Square, and since then, some have wondered just how active the activist group is.

But on Friday, some of its members showed they are still energized to make a difference by launching "Sandy Relief-Boston" to help victims of Hurricane Sandy in the New York tri-state area.

Since then, the grassroots relief effort has been able to send supplies to Brooklyn, Far Rockaway and Coney Island, all devastated by Sandy.

"We're making a lot of progress," said Josh Golin, one of the organizers. "We sent two full carloads [Sunday]. We're rapidly getting more items and are making plans for more trips down."

Anne Wolfe of Somerville left for Brooklyn early Sunday morning and arrived back in Boston late last night.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ With the exception of winter coats, clothes are no longer needed at this "Occupy Sandy" donation center in New York.

"It was quite a journey but it was worth it."

ANNE WOLFE ON DELIVERING THE DONATED ITEMS TO NEW YORK

"It was quite a journey but it was worth it," said Wolfe, who is planning another trip next weekend.

She and other Boston volunteers went door-to-door in Far Rockaway doing "wellness checks." Those victims told Wolfe they were grateful for the help.

"I think there is a common misconception that Occupy was only about very targeted political actions, but at the base [it's] a desire to provide community, and to create a system of mutual aid. When something like [Hurricane Sandy] happens, you can see that foundation shine through," Wolfe said.

Some of the items they are collecting include: blankets, candles, flashlights, batteries, water, food, towels, toiletries, disposable cameras to help victims document damage and gas station gift cards to help organizers fuel the delivery.

Occupy Wall Street activists in New York City recently started a website and volunteer campaign dubbed "Occupy Sandy," which organizes drop-off locations for supplies and meeting points for people who want to volunteer at damaged parts of the city.

The deliveries being sent down from Boston are handed off to New York City Occupiers, Golin said.

"I think we were all so touched and concerned about people who have been devastated by Hurricane Sandy," he said. "We were so inspired by the way Occupy Wall Street responded on the front lines, getting supplies and food to people who were affected."

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
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Free. Concert

▶ Steven Tyler, left, and Joe Perry rocked out for tens of thousands of fans on Commonwealth Avenue yesterday.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Bad boys back in the saddle again

In Boston to promote their new album, "Songs from Another Dimension," Aerosmith gave a free noontime performance yesterday in front of the Allston apartment where they lived when they first formed in the '70s. "Hey, what are you doing in my living room?" joked singer Steven Tyler when he spied a fan hanging out of the window of 1325 Comm. Ave., a building which has now been declared an historic landmark for its importance in the band's 40-year career. METRO

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Sandy victims warned as nor'easter set to hit

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Those in hardest-hit areas would have to wait as long as 14 days for electricity, and it may be even longer for some.

With 84 percent of electricity restored after Hurricane Sandy, power companies zeroed in on devastated coastal areas in New York and New Jersey as an approaching winter storm threatens lives.

About 1.4 million homes and businesses remain without power a week after Sandy's winds and record tides swamped Lower Manhattan and destroyed the electrical infrastructure in New Jersey's seaside communities. Officials advised residents to flee their darkened homes for warm shelters, as an approaching storm is expected to bring near-freezing temperatures, winds as high as 55 miles per hour and additional flooding as soon as tonight.

In Wayne, New Jersey, Robert Mesuk, 76, and his wife, Sandra, 73, were huddling next to the fireplace in their townhome to stay warm as they entered their second week in the dark. Their utility, owned by Public Service Enterprise Group Inc., told them they wouldn't have power back until Nov. 10.

Along the coast, the infrastructure is gone," New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg said yesterday in a press conference. "Things that took months or years to build are gone. How quickly we can get it back, I'm not sure."

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo focused his attention on those still without power, not the more than 7 million who had been restored. BLOOMBERG

In the dark

New Jersey and New York made up about 92 percent of the blackout map today. About 20 percent of New Jersey is still without power.

Quoted

"We've got no heating, no cable, Internet or TV. Our land phone is out."

ROBERT MESUK

News in brief

Army general pulled rank, forced sex, says military court

An Army general used his superior rank to force five women into improper sexual relations, military prosecutors said yesterday at a hearing to determine if he should face a court martial.

Brigadier General Jeffrey Sinclair, who is based at Fort Bragg, is accused of 26 violations of military law. They include forcible sodomy, wrongful sexual conduct, possessing pornography while deployed and conduct unbecoming of an officer. REUTERS

Delays to Fort Hood hearing annoy survivors

Survivors of the Fort Hood massacre say they are frustrated that the man accused of the shootings three years ago still has yet to face a court martial.

Major Nidal Hasan is accused of opening fire on a group of soldiers who were undergoing medical exams at the Army post in Texas on Nov. 5, 2009. REUTERS

In the news

HSBC fears US money laundering fines to top $1.5B

A U.S. fine for violating federal anti-money-laundering laws could cost HSBC Holdings significantly more than $1.5 billion and is likely to lead to criminal charges as well, Europe's biggest bank said yesterday.

HSBC said the U.S. investigation had damaged the bank's reputation and forced it to set aside a further $800 million to cover a potential fine for breaches in anti-money-laundering controls in Mexico and other violations. The provision was on top of $700 million it put aside in July

"It could be significantly higher," Chief Executive Stuart Gulliver told reporters on a conference call, saying the latest provision was based on discussions with the various U.S. authorities involved in the probe. REUTERS

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US soldier charged with killing 16 Afghans in drunken rampage

A U.S. Army soldier charged with killing 16 Afghan civilians in a drunken rampage in March sat quietly in a military courtroom yesterday as prosecutors outlined their case, accusing him of two murderous forays from his barracks into nearby villages.

Prosecutor Jay Morse said he would present evidence proving "chilling premeditation" on the part of Staff Sergeant Robert Bales, a decorated veteran of four combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan who is accused of the mass killings.

The shootings of mostly women and children in Afghanistan's Kandahar province marked the worst civilian slaughter by U.S. forces since the Vietnam War and eroded already strained U.S.-Afghan ties after more than a decade of conflict in the country.

At the end, military commanders will decide whether there is sufficient evidence to refer the case for trial by court martial.

Bales, dressed in camouflage Army fatigues, his head shaven, embraced his wife in court before the hearing began. He then sat silently watching the proceedings from the defense table as Morse summarized the prosecution's account of the events of March 11.

According to Morse, Bales had been drinking and paid a brief visit to the room of a fellow soldier before he left the Army post, called Camp Belambay, and went to a village where he committed the first set of slayings.

Bales, who is not expected to testify during the so-called Article 32 hearing, had been confined at a military prison in Kansas from March until he was moved in October to Lewis-McChord, where his infantry regiment was based. **REUTERS**

Quoted

Prosecutor Jay Morse called Bales' actions "deliberate, methodical."

The charges

- Bales faces 16 counts of premeditated murder and six counts of attempted murder, as well as charges of assault and wrongfully possessing and using steroids and alcohol while deployed. If convicted, he could face the death penalty.
- The hearing at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington state is expected to last two weeks and include witness testimony in Afghanistan carried by live video, including villagers and Afghan soldiers.

Described as wearing a cape

The prosecution then showed a video shot by night-vision camera from a surveillance balloon over the camp, showing a figure they identified as Bales walking back to the post wearing what they described as a cape.

He is seen being confronted by three soldiers, who order him to drop his weapons and take him into custody.

Prosecutors said Bales had been armed with an M-1 rifle, a pistol and a grenade launcher during the killings. **REUTERS**

News in brief

GETTY IMAGES

Recreational coke users at heightened heart attack risk: Study

NEW YORK. Occasional users of cocaine have higher blood pressure, stiffer arteries, and thicker cardiac muscle walls, all risks for heart attacks, than non-users, according to a study.

The heart abnormalities were found in recreational cocaine users long after the effects of the drug wore off, researchers said in a study presented yesterday at the American Heart Association's annual meeting in Los Angeles.

The research was inspired by a wave of cocaine-related heart abnormalities in otherwise healthy adults, according to a statement released by the medical group. **BLOOMBERG**

Did zoo boy die from fall or dog attack?

PITTSBURGH. The mother of a 2-year-old boy who died after falling into a pit of African wild dogs at the Pittsburgh Zoo stood him up on a railing before he fell and was immediately attacked by 11 dogs, police said.

The boy was visiting the zoo with his 34-year-old mother, who had put him on the railing for a better view of the animals, known as African painted dogs.

Authorities are trying to determine if the boy died from the fall or the attack, Pittsburgh police spokeswoman Diane Richard said yesterday. **REUTERS**

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Dead heat for the ultimate seat

Neither incumbent nor challenger has done much to separate himself Or is it the polarization of America? What it really means: Unlikely we have a president by tonight

According to the latest poll numbers released yesterday, Barack Obama and Mitt Romney are in a dead heat for the presidential seat, with an average of about 49 percent of voters committed to each candidate.

By way of comparison, Obama led John McCain by more than 7 percentage points at the same point during the 2008 race. In fact, this may be the closest election since John F. Kennedy squeaked by Richard Nixon in 1960, winning the popular vote by only .16 percent.

"We're a deeply polarized country," Terry Madonna, pollster with Franklin & Marshall College, said. "It's still basically an election about the economy and some voters are not convinced we're out of the recession and things are getting better. That's why the election is as close as it is." He said Romney has made great strides in garnering voter confidence regarding economic issues and has also gained on Obama when it comes to likeability.

Madonna predicts that with those areas a virtual draw, the too-close-to-call election's outcome will now largely hinge on voter turnout. "Both parties are really focusing on get-out-the-vote drives, which are probably more important than in any other election in modern time," he said. He pointed to the special importance of several key battleground states, such as Florida, Virginia, Colorado and Ohio. "Nobody's going to fight too much in New York because they know who's going to win that state," he said. "The same with Texas. The battle is going to happen where it's close and only thousands of votes are separating the candidates. Whichever party can turn out its voters in those pivotal states will probably win this. This is now a ground game, a turn-out-the vote-election."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
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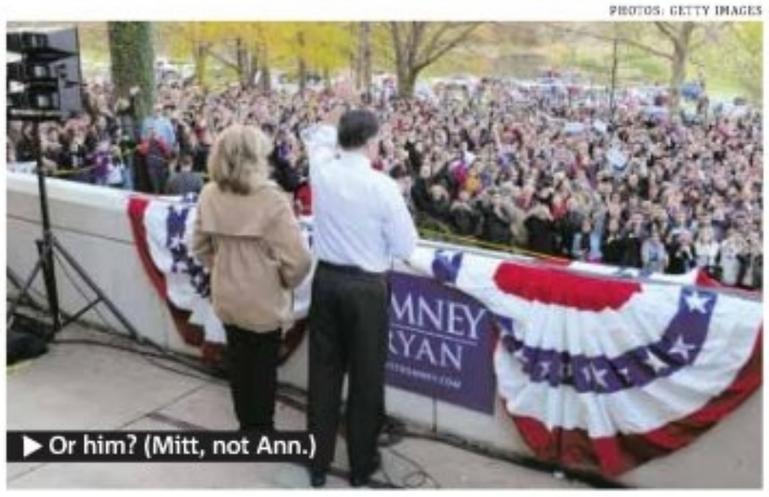
PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ Him? (Barack, not Bruce.)


▶ Or him? (Mitt, not Ann.)

Quoted

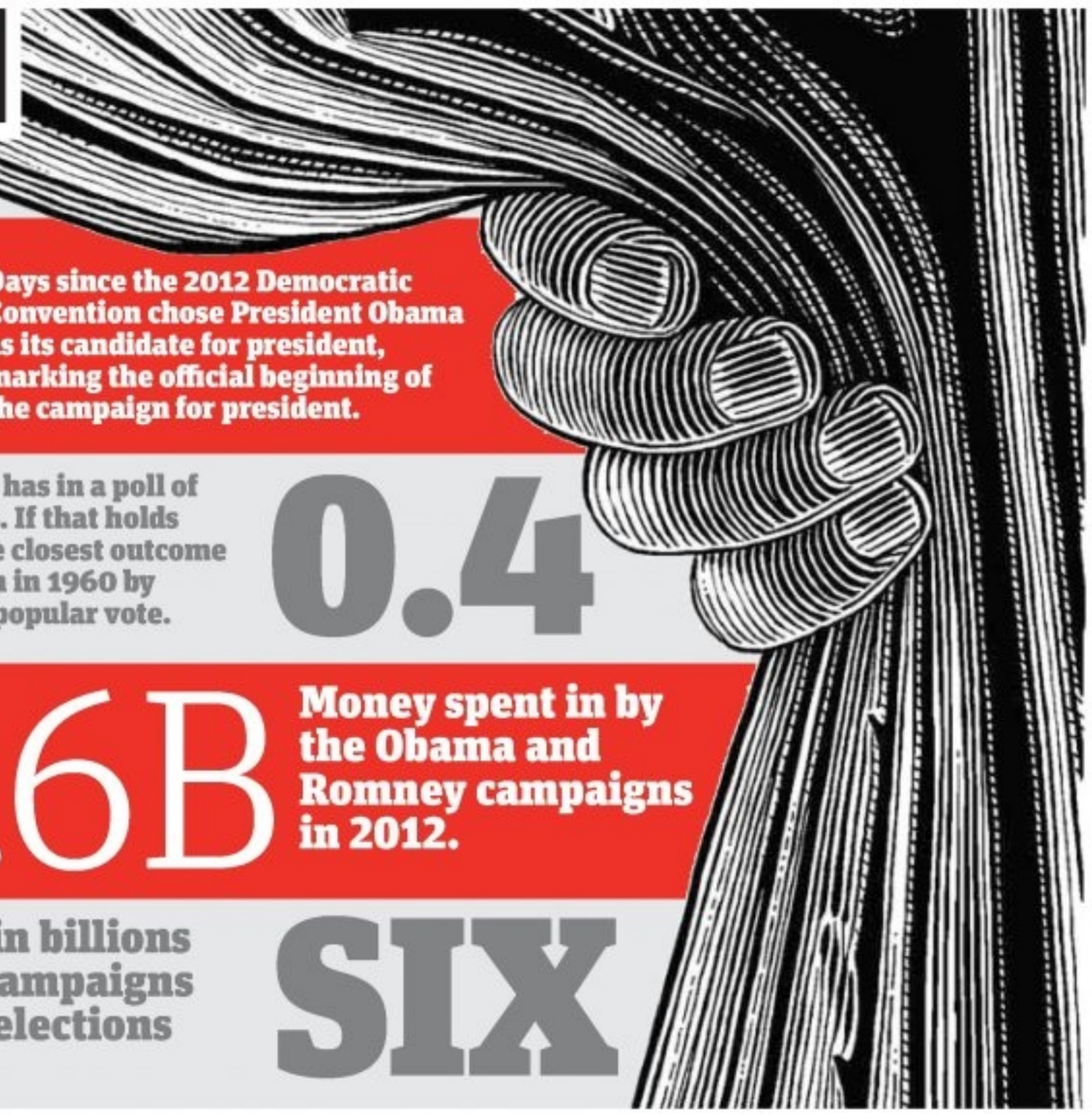
"This is now a ground game, a turn-out-the vote-election."
TERRY MADONNA

Battleground trenches

Regardless, Madonna said there's a good chance that a clear winner won't emerge tonight.

"You could have some states so contested that there will be court battles and challenges, which are already underway in states with early voting," he said. "Most analysts think the president has a slight edge in the battleground states, but no one knows for sure what's likely to happen."

By the numbers



61 Days since the 2012 Democratic Convention chose President Obama as its candidate for president, marking the official beginning of the campaign for president.

0.4 Percent lead Obama has in a poll of polls of likely voters. If that holds true, it would be the closest outcome since JFK beat Nixon in 1960 by 0.16-percent of the popular vote.

$2.6B Money spent in by the Obama and Romney campaigns in 2012.

SIX Total dollars in billions spending by campaigns in all federal elections this year.

Too close to call, from the very beginning

Here is a snapshot of several key polls throughout the race:

GALLUP
- **Aug. 11-17:** Obama 45, Romney 47 – Romney took the lead a week before he officially received his party's nomination at the Republican National Committee Convention.
- **Sept. 5-11:** Obama 50, Romney 43 – Obama saw big gains immediately following the Democratic convention, which ended Sept. 6.
- **Sept. 14-20:** Obama 47, Romney 47 – Romney pulled even after the violence in Egypt and Libya and a disappointing jobs report.
- **Sept. 25-Oct. 1:** Obama 50, Romney 44 – Romney lost ground after struggling to explain his "47 percent" comment, which was secretly recorded at a fundraising event.
- **Oct. 9-15:** Obama 47, Romney 47 – Romney invigorated his supporters and climbed back into the race following the first presidential debate.
- **Oct. 14-20:** Obama 46, Romney 49 – Even though most analysts thought Obama outperformed his opponent in the second debate, Romney was still riding a surge.
- **Oct. 21-27:** Obama 48, Romney 47 – The third and final debate gave the president a boost.

WASHINGTON POST-ABC NEWS
- **Aug. 25:** Obama 47, Romney 49
- **Sept. 9:** Obama 49, Romney 48
- **Sept. 29:** Obama 49, Romney 47
- **Oct. 13:** Obama 49, Romney 46
- **Oct. 21:** Obama 49, Romney 48

RASMUSSEN
- **Sept. 7-9:** Obama 50, Romney 45
- **Sept. 14-16:** Obama 45, Romney 47
- **Oct. 1-3:** Obama 49, Romney 47
- **Oct. 4-6:** Obama 47, Romney 49
- **Oct. 30-Nov. 1:** Obama 48, Romney 48

In big election, bigger mouths spread across Net's wide, wild blogosphere

"During a campaign stop in Colorado today, President Obama sneezed as he defended his health care plan. 'It gives me a cold just thinking about what they might do,' Obama joked. Obama then repeated his line from earlier today, that Romney's plan for health care should be called the 'Romney-doesn't-Care' plan." – **AUG. 28, CHARLIE SPIERING FOR THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER'S BELTWAY CONFIDENTIAL, "OBAMA SNEEZES WHILE DEFENDING OBAMACARE; BLAMES IT ON REPUBLICANS"**

"Obama – no surprise – is winning news cycles, but Romney is winning the election. And he is doing so because a majority of the American people have simply had enough nastiness, enough radicalism, enough of this president."
NOV. 3, JOEL POLLAK FOR BREITBART, "WHY ROMNEY WILL WIN"

"At the second debate, somebody asked how Bush and Romney differ. I'll give you the answer: Romney's taller, Mormon and a little smarter and meaner." – **OCT. 29, STEPHEN STILLS FOR ROLLING STONE, "STEPHEN STILLS ON MITT ROMNEY: 'I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE A CREEPIER POLITICIAN THAN NIXON'"**

"Barack Obama's campaign is running radio ads in Virginia featuring a montage of uncomfortable Mitt Romney moments ... Listeners hear the former Massachusetts governor saying: 'Corporations are people, my friend ... Let Detroit go bankrupt ... Borrow money if you have to ... Who let the dogs out? Who? Who?'" – **NOV. 3, ALEXANDER HABER FOR POLITICO, "OBAMA AD QUOTES ROMNEY: 'WHO LET THE DOGS OUT?'"**

"Obama has done nothing but drag his feet and procrastinate about being unabashedly evil deep into his fourth year. Where is the colossal statue of him that springs to life and kills Christians? Where is the fire pouring out of the sky into the eyes of men? I don't even think he's drawn up any schematics." – **SEPT. 21, SOREN BOWIE FOR CRACKED.COM, "WHY OBAMA IS THE LEAST EFFICIENT ANTICHRIST EVER"**

"The Obama campaign has targeted and intimidated Republican donors on an Internet enemies list. It has engaged in the juvenile mockery of Mitt Romney's singing. It has suggested, without evidence, that Romney may have committed the felony of falsifying FEC documents." – **AUG. 17, MICHAEL GERSON FOR REAL CLEAR POLITICS, "OBAMA'S BETRAYAL"**

News in pictures

Lots to see along the 2012 campaign trail

1: Singer Katy Perry performs at a campaign rally for U.S. President Barack Obama at Doolittle Park in Las Vegas.

2: Election cookies of President Barack Obama and Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney are made at the Oakmont Bakery in Oakmont, Penn.

3: People wear cowboy hats during the second day of the Democratic National Convention at Time Warner Cable Arena on Sept. 5 in Charlotte, N.C.

4: Kid Rock (L) and Congressman Paul Ryan attend the Congressman Paul Ryan Rally With Kid Rock at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich.

5: People watch the debate on Oct. 16.

GETTY IMAGES

2

4

3

Financial collapse helped Obama in '08, but this year? Not exactly

In September 2008, the presidential campaign was rumbled by a Wall Street meltdown that would give the candidates a chance to prove their mettle. Four years later, Hurricane Sandy would do the same.

According to Chris Galdieri, a political science professor at St. Anselm College in Goffstown, N.H., both unforeseen events favored Barack Obama. "The financial collapse really gave Obama a chance to pass the commander-in-chief test, because he was very calm, he looked and acted like someone that you wouldn't be upset to have in charge during a crisis."

The response to Hurricane Sandy also allowed the president to prove his leadership.

The down economy was a defining topic in both campaigns; the Great Recession in 2008 versus the "sluggish recovery" of 2012. Where John McCain took the hit in 2008, Obama has been held accountable ever since.

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶The players from 2008, left, and 2012.

Galdieri said it is difficult for Romney to attack on a sluggish recovery because doing so acknowledges there is a recovery at all. But it's no walk in the park for Obama. "This is not Bill Clinton in 1996 or Ronald Reagan in 1984, where they had a booming economy and sky-high approval ratings."

Unlike Obama's easy ride from nomination to the resounding defeat of McCain, he has held only a marginal lead over Romney. The POTUS also is running on his record rather than the 2008 motifs of "change" and "yes, we can."

"When you are just a candidate, people can project just about anything off of you," Galdieri said. SR/METRO

Metropolitik

GRAHAM WILSON

POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR, BOSTON UNIVERSITY

WE'LL BE HAPPY WHEN $1B SOAP OPERA IS OVER

Asking a political scientist to write about an election campaign before the results come in is like asking the theater critic to file a review of a play at intermission. But's its also good to sit down and think about what this campaign has meant and how it has gone, independent of the results.

First, isn't everyone glad it is over? We've been told that the results depend on "a handful of undecided voters." I bet there are many more undecided than people who are still enjoying this campaign. The question I'd ask is what are the costs and benefits of having a campaign that has been going on full speed since January and, in practice, before that. Mitt Romney started to run against Barack Obama almost three years ago. Some would say that long campaigns are useful because during them we learn so much more about the candidates and their positions. It's hard to make that case this time. I don't think even Mitt's most ardent supporter is clearer on his positions on topics such as the environment, tax allowances or abortion than when he started out. We'll come back to the financial costs of the campaign. For now, let's just think about how the length of the campaign has imposed costs in terms of governing — hard choices deferred, compromise subordinated to getting a good sound bite to use in commercials, et cetera. Of course, this applies to decisions about the government's budget and the economy, but it also affects decision-making on foreign policy. Other democracies get by with much shorter campaigns. It really isn't fundamental to democracy that the system work this way!

Second, it sure was expensive. The price tag of $6 to $7 billion is huge. I know it can be argued that we spend as much advertising automobiles, laundry detergent and other products, but there's no way around the fact that $6 to $7 billion is a lot of money. Raising that money takes a lot of time and requires paying a lot of attention to donors that could have been spent on voters. In our politics, as in many other aspects of our society, the super rich have gained in importance and leverage. There's plenty of blame to go around here. Obama destroyed the practice of presidential candidates relying on public funding in 2008 when he realized he could raise much more money than public funding would provide. The Supreme Court's infamous Citizens United decision in the name of free speech deliberately opened the floodgates to more spending by people or groups laughably said to be independent of the candidates. People like Sheldon Adelson have bought themselves plenty of free speech this time around, much of it spent on negative attack ads. By the end of October, Adelson has spent more than $54 million going after Obama. That's a lot more "free speech" than most citizens can afford!

Quoted

There's no way around the fact that $6 to $7 billion is a lot of money. Raising that money takes a lot of time and requires paying a lot of attention to donors that could have been spent on voters. In our politics, as in many other aspects of our society, the super rich have gained in importance and leverage.

Third, the candidates, the parties and the groups certainly continued to believe the experts' advice that negative advertising works. Yes, we all say we hate negative advertising, but research shows people remember it. It's not surprising, therefore, that we get so much of it. Here in Massachusetts, we had the odd spectacle of Sen. Scott Brown, even while describing himself as a fence-building moderate, running constant personal attacks on his opponent, Elizabeth Warren. If Brown has won by the time you read this, score another one for the argument that going negative and personalistic works!

Fourth, doesn't this campaign show yet again how pernicious the Electoral College is? We don't know yet if the undemocratic difference between the popular vote and the Electoral College vote we saw in 2000 will re-emerge this year. We do know that all the attention of the presidential campaigns in the last few weeks has been concentrated on a handful of states. If we'd abolished the Electoral College, the candidates would have behaved very differently. We'd have seen Romney campaigning in California and New York because there are a lot of potential Republican voters there. We'd have seen Obama campaigning in Texas because, although they're a minority in the state, there are a lot of potential Democratic voters there. In a USA that's worried about polarization, wouldn't this have been good for the country?

Was there anything positive to be learned or said about this campaign?

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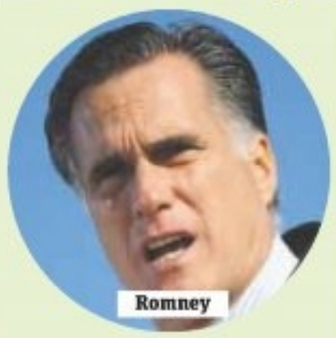
From their mouths to your ears: A campaign in quotes

Quoted: Romney


Romney

"President Obama promised change, but he could not deliver it. I promise change, and I have a record of achieving it."

A FAMILIAR LINE FROM ROMNEY DURING THE CAMPAIGN

GETTY IMAGES

Romney's campaign

Powell

"I think when you have somebody of your own race that you're proud of being president of the United States, I applaud Colin [Powell] for standing with him."

ROMNEY CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIR JOHN SUNUNU'S STATEMENT ON POWELL'S ENDORSEMENT OF OBAMA DREW SOME REBUKE. SUNUNU LATER CLARIFIED HIS REMARKS.

Bloomberg

Bloomberg

"Rather than uniting the country around a message of shared sacrifice, he engaged in partisan attacks and has embraced a divisive populist agenda focused more on redistributing income than creating it."

NYC MAYOR MICHAEL BLOOMBERG SAID OF OBAMA BEFORE ENDORSING HIM

Obama

Obama

"When it comes to our foreign policy, you seem to want to import the foreign policies of the 1980s, just like the social policies of the 1950s and the economic policies of the 1920s."

OBAMA TOLD ROMNEY DURING THE THIRD AND FINAL PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

Biden

Biden

"Osama bin Laden is dead and General Motors is alive."

VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN SAID DURING CAMPAIGN SPEECHES, TOUTING OBAMA'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GETTY IMAGES

Obama's campaign

Palin

"The Romney campaign is so desperate to change the subject that they've gone back to the failed playbook co-authored by Sarah Palin and Joe the Plumber."

CAMPAIGN SPOKESWOMAN JEN PSAKI SAID, REFERRING TO ROMNEY ATTACK ON OBAMA'S 1998 COMMENTS ABOUT RE-DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH

SOLOMON D. LEACH
sleach@metro.us

From Iowa until today's closing bell: What a 10-week roller coaster

Jan. 3 & 10: Gov. Mitt Romney wins the Iowa Caucus and New Hampshire primary, establishing himself as the candidate to beat. (The final count would show Rick Santorum as the actual Iowa winner by 34 votes.)

May 29: Romney clinches the Texas primary and locks the nomination.

June 28: The Supreme Court upholds key provisions of the President Barack Obama's health-care law, a staple of Romney's attacks.

July 13: "If you've got a business, you didn't build that," Obama says, fueling a firestorm of attacks and the theme of the Republican Convention: "We Built It."

July 25: Romney is skewered in the British tabloids after calling preparations for the London Olympics "disconcerting." Days later in Israel, Romney says he wants to move the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Aug. 30: Romney accepts the nomination at the GOP convention, preceded by Clint Eastwood, who speaks to a chair representing an invisible Obama.

Eastwood

Sept. 11: Militants attack the American consulate in Benghazi, killing Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans. Romney criticizes the President.

Sept. 17: Mother Jones magazine uploads a secretly recorded tape of a private Romney fundraiser from May. In his estimation, there are 47 percent of Americans "who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims," he says.

Oct. 3: Romney scores a resounding victory in the first debate, taking a four-point lead among likely voters in a Pew poll. Obama's lackluster showing is thrashed by supporters. "This is what happens when you pick John Kerry as your debate coach," tweeted filmmaker Michael Moore.

Moore

Oct. 16: During the second debate, Romney says it took the president 14 days to call the Benghazi attack an act of terror. Moderator Candy Crowley interjects: "He did, in fact, sir."

Oct. 22: Obama galvanizes his base in the final debate. Responding to Romney's claim that the Navy has fewer ships now than in 1916, he remarks, "we also have fewer horses and bayonets."

Oct. 29: Hurricane Sandy hits the East Coast. Obama's response draws praise from top Romney surrogate New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, who says: "I cannot thank the president enough for his personal concern and compassion."

SIMON RIOS/METRO

myentertainment

2

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

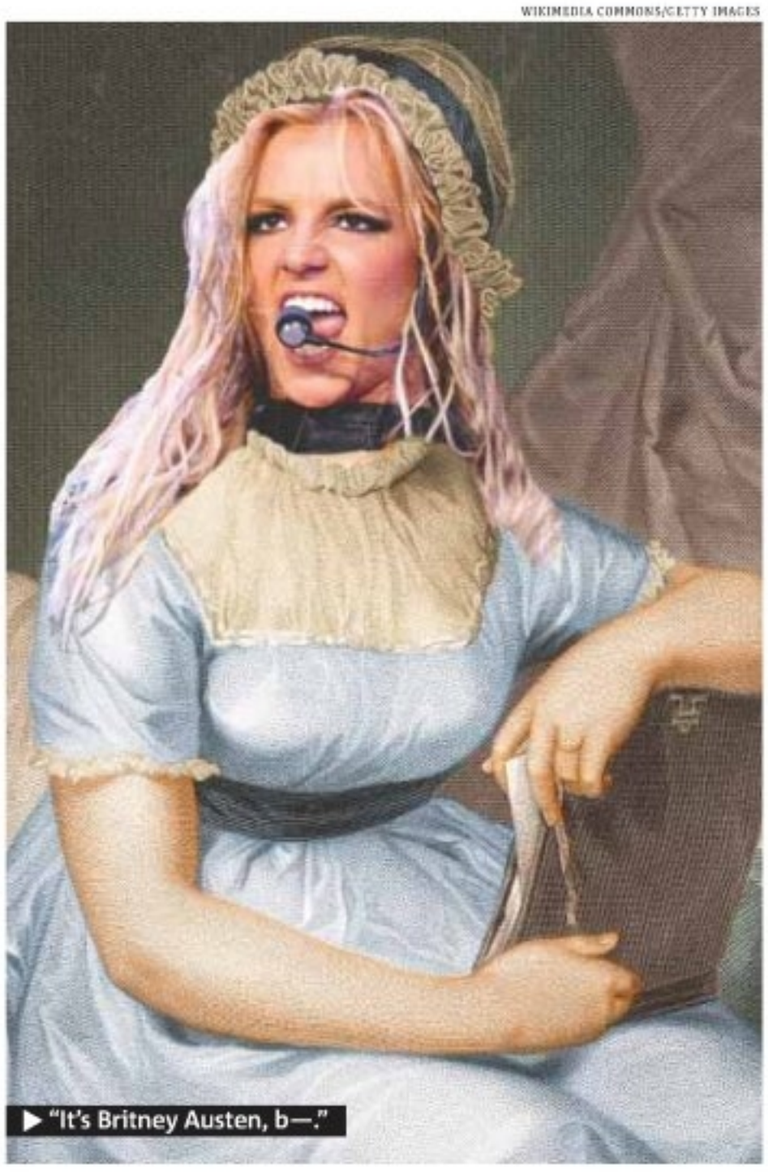
Britney Spears: The blond Jane Austen

There's a trend in book publishing where a superstar gets paid buckets and buckets of cash to "write" a book and people actually read it thinking it's the fruit of their favorite celebrity's labor (see: **Snooki**, **Lauren Conrad**, **Bethenny Frankel** and the **Kardashian** sisters). The latest to join their ranks? **Britney Spears**, who is reportedly in talks with It Books. That's according to The Hollywood Reporter, which writes, "Britney Spears is close to signing a book deal ... with plans to write a novel ... The story would incorporate fictionalized versions of her own experiences."

Her own experiences and not, say, a supernatural teen romance? Actually, Spears' life — spawning with a back-up dancer from Fresno, **Sam Lufti**, shaving her head, being under the conservatorship of her father — is on the level of Shakespeare (you know Lady Macbeth would be a former Mouseketeer if "Macbeth" were written nowadays).

Write from the heart, Britney! Don't let your underpaid ghostwriter tell you what's what! But in all honesty, you know if Spears wrote from the heart, the whole book would typed in Wing Dings.

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS/GETTY IMAGES



▶ "It's Britney Austen, b—."

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Kevin Nealon is feeling curious, Jim Carrey has a disturbing vision of the future, Rihanna is feeling a sense of accomplishment and Lindsay Lohan is having a rough day.

@kevin_nealon
Do they have an Americatown in Bejing?

@JimCarrey
In the near future we'll only be able to communicate through devices. Actual human contact will be outlawed by the Apple iCourt.

@rihanna
Man my album is complete, and I need a f---ing drink and a roll up! It was quite the journey, but it's all part of our story!

@lindsaylohan
my twitter was hacked, please ignore the last tweet.

Jim Carrey

Sam Worthington arrested in Atlanta

"Avatar" star **Sam Worthington** had a bad Saturday night. Not only was he arrested, he was also hit with pepper spray by a doorman to top it all off.

TMZ reports that Worthington, who is in Atlanta filming "Ten," which co-stars **Arnold Schwarzenegger**, became unruly when he was denied entrance to a restaurant. According to the police report, a witness told cops Worthington became disorderly, pushing a doorman who responded by pepper spraying the star and handcuffing him until the cops came.

MTV plans Sandy 'Shore' benefit

The cast of "Jersey Shore" is hosting a one-hour fundraising special to help the New Jersey Shore on Nov. 15 at 11 p.m. from MTV's Times Square studio. The network says money raised will go toward rebuilding Seaside Heights, N.J., where the reality TV show was filmed. Cast members will appear in the special as well as other yet-to-be announced guest stars.

Talking points

Bell and Shepard are expecting a baby

They may have vowed to put off tying the knot until same-sex marriage is legal again in California, but engaged couple **Kristen Bell** and **Dax Shepard** are reportedly not waiting to start a family. Sources tell People magazine that Bell is pregnant with their first child, due in the spring. "They're so excited — they're both ecstatic. They can't wait to become parents," the source says. "Kristen had a little bit of morning sickness early on, but she just started shooting the second season of 'House of Lies' and is feeling great now."

▶ The happy parents-to-be

Will Beckham be a talk show host?

David Beckham may be looking to add talk show host to his list of job titles, as two different TV companies have reportedly offered him his own show, according to the Daily Star. "We want David on board whether or not he continues to play for the [L.A.] Galaxy," a source close to one of the companies, Time Warner Cable, says. "We are on our way to becoming the world's biggest sportscaster, and he is a key part of our future." Time Warner has reportedly offered him a "multimillion-dollar" contract, prompting the Fox Sports network to make an offer of their own.

Osbourne talks double mastectomy

Sharon Osbourne has revealed that she recently underwent a double mastectomy because of a genetic predisposition to develop breast cancer, she tells Hello! Magazine. "I've had cancer before, and I didn't want to live under that cloud," she explains. "I didn't even think of my breasts in a nostalgic way. I just wanted to be able to live my life without that fear all the time."

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Seeing red

1. Considering her new album is titled "Red," it comes as no surprise that **Taylor Swift** is in love with the color. Here she is in a beige dress with red accents by Jenny Packham at the 46th Annual CMA Awards on Thursday.

2. Chris Isaak performed at City National Grove of Anaheim on Aug. 1 in a spiffy red coat.

3. Oprah Winfrey danced in her red shoes during "O You!" presented by O, The Oprah Magazine, at the Los Angeles Convention Center on Oct. 20.

4. Amanda Seyfried donned a red frock as she left the Miu Miu Spring/Summer 2013 show as part of Paris Fashion Week on Oct. 3 in Paris.

5. Looks like **Tracy Morgan** forgot his shirt while at Spike TV's "Eddie Murphy: One Night Only" at the Saban Theatre on Saturday in Beverly Hills.

1: SARA KAUSS/ABC VIA GETTY IMAGES
2: ALLEN BERESFORD/GETTY IMAGES
3: ERIK ROSE/WIREIMAGE
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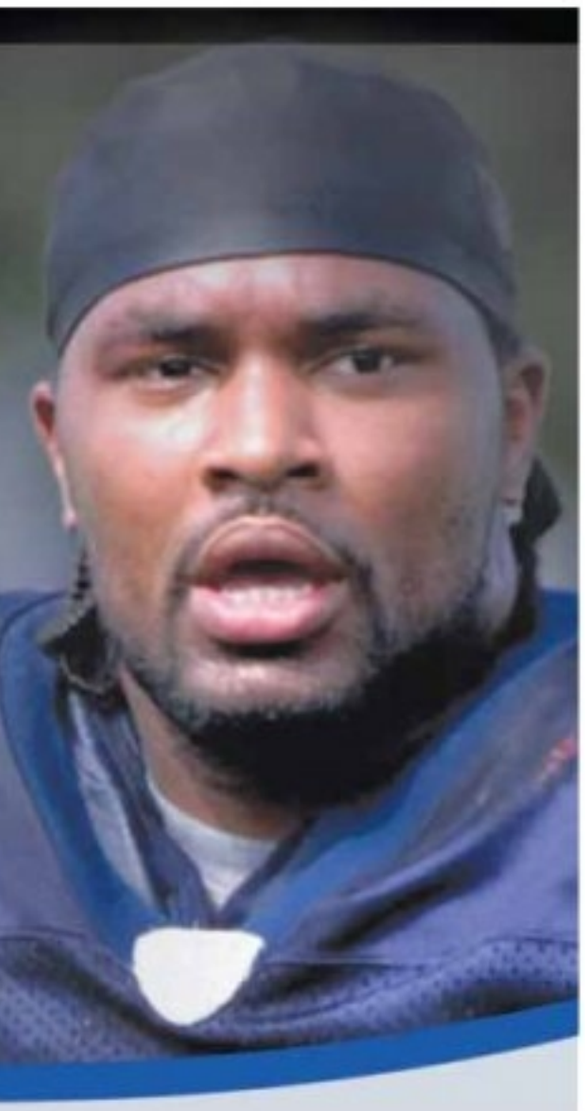

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Anna Goldfarb's tall tales

In her new memoir, the blogger and author attempts to get her love life, career and living situation under control ● It doesn't go as planned

Try as she might, Anna Goldfarb just can't seem to get her life together. Her attempts at dating, love and finding gainful employment are met with hilarious results that she chronicles in her new memoir, "Clearly I Didn't Think This Through: The Story of One Tall Girl's Impulsive, Ill-Conceived, and Borderline Irresponsible Life Decisions." She took a break from writing on her blog, Shmitten Kitten, to answer a few questions from us.

First of all, how tall are you? And how do you explain your obsession with men shorter than you, which is an ongoing theme in your book?

I'm 6-foot-1 which, as everyone tells me, is really tall for a woman. I've always loved shorter guys. The first time I remember noticing a hot short guy was Michael J. Fox in "Back to the Future." I was in third grade at the time and once I saw him in those purple Calvin Kleins, I was like, "I am definitely interested in everything I'm looking at here." I still am!

What is the best thing about dating? The worst?

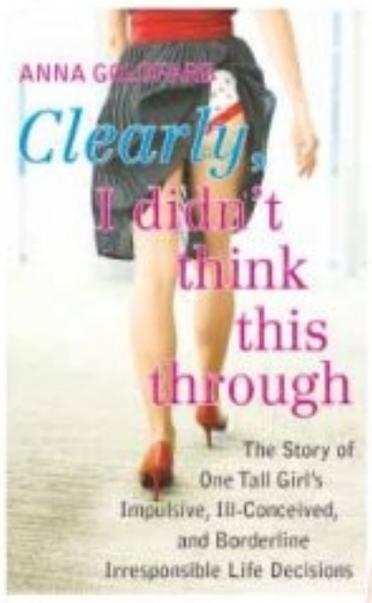
The best thing about dating is the elation of discovering someone new. Riding in his car for the first time, hearing about his job after he has a tough day, meeting his little sister; those are exciting things in a way. It's an excuse to try new restaurants and expose someone to my favorite spots in town too. The worst part about dating is the awkwardness when a date doesn't go well and he's already incorporated into my social media world. I wish I could just erase him from all networks with one swipe!

Are you a better dater now that you're in your 30s? Or is it harder?

I'm a better dater in the sense that I know what it takes to have a successful date; paying attention to which bars and restaurants to suggest for a fun night. It's harder too because most men my age have either settled down or are so set in their ways that they don't open themselves up to meeting someone new.

You say you are terrible at being an adult. Why is that? What does it take to be a "good" adult, in your opinion?

I'm terrible at being an adult because I've regressed since I've been in my 30s. Adults create homes and affix works of art to their foyer walls; I'm still crashing at my parents' place and I have band posters in my bedroom. I don't have a job and I don't have a boyfriend; two hallmarks of a stable, adult life. And, I feel like I'm not even close to having any of those things anytime soon.


ANNA GOLDFARB
Clearly, I didn't think this through
The Story of One Tall Girl's Impulsive, Ill-Conceived, and Borderline Irresponsible Life Decisions

Anna Goldfarb

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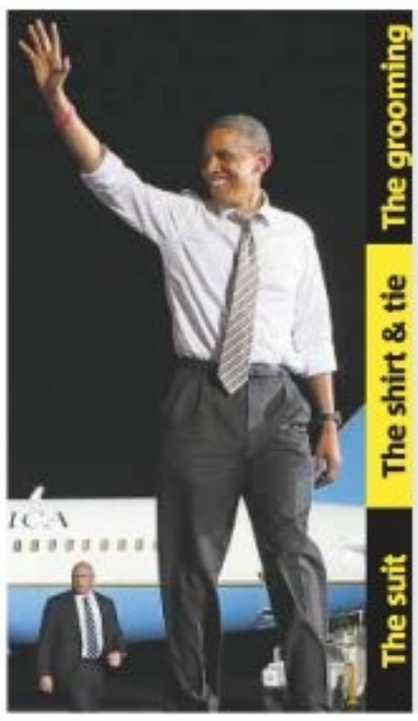
Sartorial politics

As Barack Obama and Mitt Romney make their final arguments, we size up their style statements



The grooming

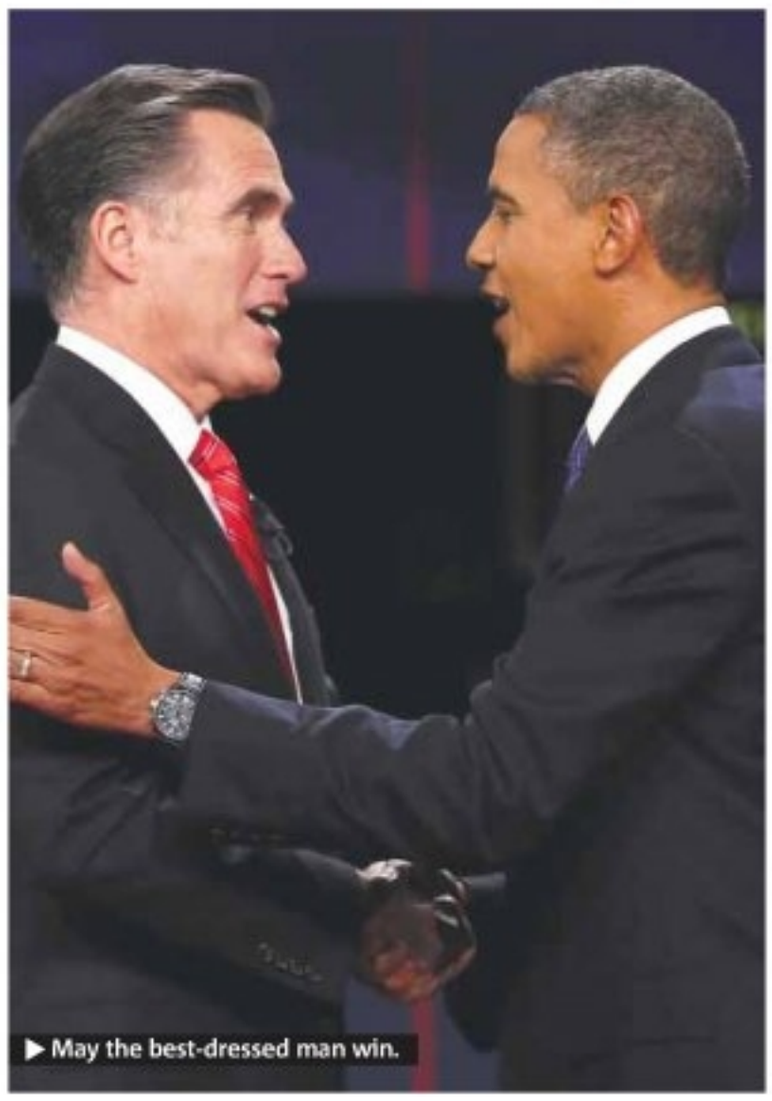
Showing the strain: It can't be easy running the country and a campaign. The stress of it all is visible in Obama's sallow eyes and gaunt complexion. Chug a cappuccino — the finish line is near.

The shirt & tie

The incumbent president's rolled-up sleeves and crumpled shirt is an attempt to transcend the divide between white- and blue-collar workers. It's a contrived look, but voters always prefer a people's president — and Obama is just that.

The suit

No jacket is a politician's way of saying the gloves are off. But the cinched waist and pleated trousers make Obama look like he's been missing his morning protein shake.



▶ May the best-dressed man win.

The Leader of the Free World isn't meant to be a fashion plate. We'd rather see him with his sleeves rolled up, sorting out the economy, after all. And yet, we expect the president to look distinguished and stately. It's a fine balance to strike. We size up the opponents. MWN

The grooming

Throughout the campaign, the one sure thing Romney has going for him is his perfect hair. He also has a reassuringly strong jawline, but we've seen how he feels after a barrage of political punches.

The shirt & tie

The 65-year-old's looking a bit scrawny around the neck, but the shirt's a pretty good fit. However, the neatly rolled sleeves are boardroom length (rather than, say, for any physical labor), while the zippy tie screams country club.

The suit

Ack! More drab old slacks. Here his are belted high, with the shirt billowing at the waist. Romney, there's no excuse: You can afford the finest — and a stylist to boot.

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myparenting

Rosie Pope on what to expect

The Bravo reality TV star, maternity clothing designer and pregnancy know-it-all, Rosie Pope, channels her knowledge into her book, 'Mommy IQ'

PHOTOS: BENTLEY WATERS

Rosie Pope is a busy mama: In between starring on the Bravo reality show "Pregnant in Heels," overseeing her Rosie Pope maternity line and being a wife and mother to three children, she somehow found time to write her new book "Mommy IQ: The Complete Guide to Pregnancy," a down-to-earth guide for expectant mothers.

Pope decided to tackle "Mommy IQ" because she wanted to share some of the knowledge she's gained from her life, both professionally and personally. "I've had access to some of the best leading experts — not everybody gets that kind of access — and it should be available to everyone," she notes. "Being pregnant can be a nerve-wracking time; it's hard to find that one book that has all the information but doesn't feel scary."

So why should a new mom pick up "Mommy IQ" and not one of the classics like "What to Expect When You're Expecting"? Although Pope says she's a personal fan of the famed guide, she believes "Mommy IQ" is more personal and therefore more relatable. "['What to Expect'] is a little outdated. It doesn't feel very friendly. I really wanted to create a book that had the same reliable facts, but is also an enjoyable companion."

OLIVIA MORROW
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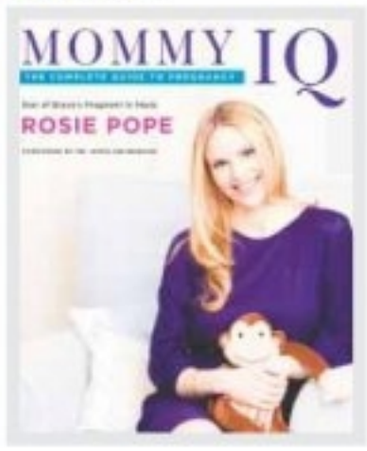
Quoted



"Women want a bit of both. They don't just want boring, bare facts and they also don't want a very flippant girlfriend's guide. They want all the information, but they also want some candid dialogue from a real mom." POPE

Rosie knows

Pope busts some common pregnancy myths:

You can still be you.
"People think that when you become pregnant, your life has to stop and you have to stop doing everything that you normally do," says Pope. "You can still exercise, you can still eat a lot of things you want to eat, you can still be you. You just have to take a little bit better care of you."

You're not eating for two. Really.
"It's important to indulge and have fun when you're pregnant, but it's also important to understand that in the first and second trimesters you really only need 100 to 300 extra calories everyday, which isn't that much," she notes.

Stretch mark cream: Take it or leave it.
"It's a personal thing," she says. "I don't think there's really any actual evidence saying it works, but I've used it for every [pregnancy] out of paranoia. I think it feels nice, but I wouldn't be able to say that it definitely works."

▶ Rosie Pope is a mother to three as well as the author of the new book, "Mommy IQ: The Complete Guide to Pregnancy."

Letters

letters@metro.us

Is Conn Carroll conning us all?

RE: "THERE'S NOWHERE TO HIDE FROM US POLITICS AS USUAL" (METRO, NOV. 5) According to news columnist Conn Carroll, if Obama is elected, he'll be unable to negotiate with the (expected) Republican House. Of course, he doesn't even mention how Romney will deal with the (also expected) Democratic Senate — but I guess we should just assume it'll be a love-fest.

JUSTIN WARNER, VIA E-MAIL

I suppose that it's a good thing that Conn Carroll's conservative political biases are so obvious and up-front, because that's the only aspect of his column that is honest. Everything else is pure distortion — or outright lies. He starts in the second paragraph, saying something about a slew of policy objective that "almost everybody believes would lead to economic catastrophe," which is only true if you only count Fox News and Karl Rove. Carroll goes on to talk about an alleged tax hike, when in fact that's largely the expiration of Bush-era tax cuts targeted mainly at the very rich, as well as cuts in defense spending, which are mostly targeted at obsolete Cold War-era weapons and programs, which the Pentagon itself says it doesn't need anymore.

I particularly liked how Carroll demonized Mrs. Obama's exhortation to their supporters that they must never retreat into complacency, portraying active citizenship as a burden. This is particularly ironic, given that an informed, involved and constantly activist electorate would be the Republicans' greatest nightmare.

GARY L. DAY, VIA E-MAIL

Conn Carroll says that the 'fiscal cliff' is "an impending economic and political disaster" of Obama's creation. A disaster because it is going to cut spending or increase taxes next year by $660 billion if no action is taken. It was actually a bipartisan creation of Congress and the president designed to bring down the deficit. Republicans who attack the president for the "fiscal cliff" are hypocrites. Just last year they were pushing for a balanced budget amendment, which Democrats blocked. If Republicans had their way, we would have no tax increases and be making horrific cuts of $1.1 billion or more next year, a much more disastrous fiscal cliff.

NATHAN ISRAELOFF, VIA E-MAIL

EPA deserves to be on list of agencies to be thanked

RE: "TAXPAYERS FUND HEROES, TOO" (METRO, NOV. 5) I wholeheartedly agree with the sentiments of AJ Castilla's letter, and I'd like to add the Environmental Protection Agency to that list. They deal with all the hazardous and noxious stuff that spills into the water and air after a disaster. They also get your drinking water and waste water systems back online.
And to show efficient government agencies can be, NYC's MTA has the subways up and running weeks ahead of projection.

I gladly pay my taxes because of the services provided by the great men and women who are loyal public servants.

A. REY, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** When it comes to career matters, what you know is of far greater importance than whom you know. Trade on your experience and capabilities, not on your social contacts.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Be careful, because a friend's well-meaning advice might be more emotional than practical. If you're in dire need of good counsel, seek the opinions of a pal with a level head.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Being a bit too susceptible to other people's viewpoints could quickly get you off course. Instead of relying on other people's opinions, follow your own.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** It's OK to be as frank as possible when dealing with others who need the facts. The truth might be a tad abrasive, but it could turn out to be less harmful in the long run.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** This could be a rather disruptive day, in which you might have to deal with more unexpected changes than usual. Deal with each crisis separately.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** When you start to demand perfection from others, you had better be prepared to be flawless yourself. Your slightest mistake will be held up to ridicule.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Several significant objectives can be achieved if you have the necessary fixity of purpose. However, in going about your business, you need to be careful that you don't sacrifice efficiency for speed.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Guard against being overly possessive of friends and/or loved ones. Even if you are one of their favorites, they need the chance to socialize with all kinds of people, just as you do.

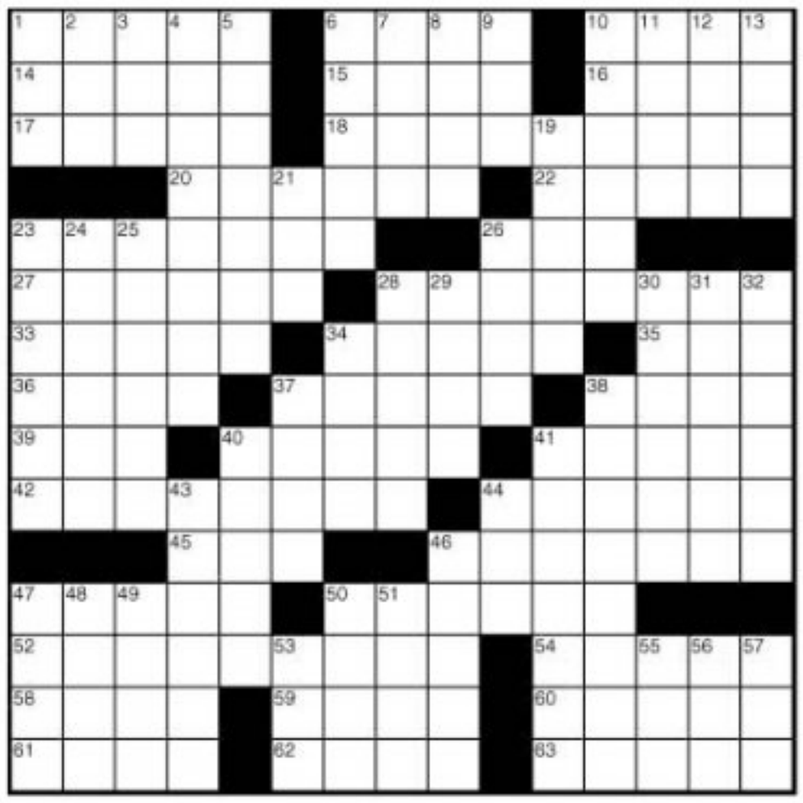
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** If you plan to do a little shopping, take along one of your more tight-fisted friends who can help you monitor any extravagant urges.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** When your decisions are based upon practical premises, your reasoning is usually sound and effective. Allow sentiment or emotion to dominate, however, and it could be another story.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Keep in mind that prices aren't always carved in stone. If there is something you'd like to buy but you think is too expensive, don't hesitate to haggle for a better deal.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Make it a point to keep your nose out of a close friend's commercial affairs unless you're invited to do so. By the same token, don't let anyone get in your business. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

Across
1 "Kundun" setting
6 Luggage fastener
10 Wide yawn
14 — — the run (grab a bite)
15 "Dies —" (Latin hymn)
16 Shuck peas
17 Turbaned seer
18 Not for real
20 Glimpses
22 Zany
23 Turkish inns
26 Torme or Gibson
27 Sips slowly
28 Golf stroke (2 wds.)
33 Was quietly angry
34 Raise the sail
35 Caesar's 1,002
36 Not do
37 Thai money
38 Mete out
39 Curse one's folly
40 2.2-pound units
41 Like a tablet
42 Riverbank burrowers
44 Ravenous
45 Frozen Wasser
46 Diplomacy
47 Photographer — Adams
50 Euclid and Plato
52 Movie extra (2 wds.)
54 Lab slide dye
58 Wings, in botony
59 Modern trolley
60 Cugat specialty
61 Atlas abbr.
62 City near Stockton
63 Campaign for election



Down
1 Brown of renown
2 Hem's partner
3 — — standstill
4 Writer W. — Maugham
5 Licorice-like flavoring
6 Platter players
7 Indy champ — Luyendyk
8 Kangaroo pouches
9 Caress
10 Horror flick roles
11 Em, to Dorothy
12 Survey chart
13 — May Clampett
19 Feckless
21 Qt. parts
23 Tell
24 Waikiki wear
25 Rome's legions
26 Overlook
28 Pacific salmon
29 Bangs into
30 Some Laotian immigrants
31 Crude carriers
32 Wild tee shirt (hyph.)
34 Sentry's bark
37 Prejudice
38 Doesn't cook (2 wds.)
40 Whale's diet
41 Big game fish
43 Zoo employee
44 Speed off
46 Physicist Enrico —
47 Blind as — —
48 Giza's river
49 Milky Way unit
50 Pita sandwich
51 Leafed through
53 Maj. ocean
55 Dallas campus
56 "Big Blue"
57 Doze off

	6	2		7				4
	1				6			8
					5			1
	3	9		2	8		1	5
1	7		5	3		4	6	
9			1					
5			7				4	
7				5		9	2	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

		7	4		8	1		
		2	1				8	
4			5	6			3	
		1						9
3		9				8		4
8						6		
	8			7	4			1
	7				1	5		
		4	3		2	7		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Rediscovering the Azores

The little-known island region of Portugal offers big rewards for curious travelers Swim and hike by day Drink a glass of local wine at night

The rocky coastline meets warm, turquoise waters in Pico Island.

PHOTOS: REBECCA FINKEL

Where to eat

- **Ancoradouro** in Magdalena, Pico Island: Traditional fare and local wine served with views of the ocean
- **Anfiteatro** in Ponta Delgada, Sao Miguel island: Modernist remixes of regional dishes, such as cinnamon-spiked blood sausage
- **O Gato Mia** in Ponta Delgada, Sao Miguel island: A hip, intimate bistro in the Azores' most cosmopolitan city
- **O Venancio** in Angra do Heroisma, Terceira island: A cafe where locals spend Sunday afternoons chatting over the catch of the day
- **Peter Cafe Sport** in Faial, Horta island: A cozy bar that attracts sailors from all over the world and is famous for its gin and tonic

REBECCA FINKEL
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You can be forgiven for never having heard of the Azores. On the travel shelves of most bookstores, titles will skip straight from Australia to the Bahamas. But this tiny archipelago in the middle of the Atlantic is overdue to become a destination for travelers seeking unspoiled subtropical terrain that wears its history on its sleeve.

What to do

Because of the variety of terrain, there's plenty to do, from hiking to scuba diving. If you're drawn to the water, the Azores has plenty of public swimming areas carved into the craggy basalt shoreline. And this former whaling capital now draws some of the Atlantic's best whale and dolphin watching.

With nine islands to explore, it helps to consult a company that customizes tours to your interests and abilities. We like **Picos de Aventura (www.picosdeaventura.com)** in Ponta Delgada and **A Abegoaria (www.a-abegoaria.com)**, serving the island of Pico.

Where to stay

Aldeia da Fonte's rambling seaside property includes a private seaside bathing area, a spa and an old whaling lookout tower. Be sure to enjoy a glass of local vino verdelho at the lovely outdoor bar **(www.aldeiadafonte.com)**.

In Pico, grapevines grow on volcanic rock walls that protect the plants from wind and keep them warm at night.

What to see

The first thing you'll notice are the many shades of Azorean blue: the clear sky, the persistently blooming hydrangeas and morning glories, the deep turquoise ocean stretching undisturbed for more than a thousand miles in all directions. Each island has its own geographical marvels, such as the 7,713-foot-high dormant volcano that gives Pico Island its name and the hikeable lava tunnels beneath, and the steaming hot springs in Sao Miguel.

What to eat and drink

"Meat or fish?" is often the question come dinnertime. Because of its location, seafood is the centerpiece of many Azorean menus. But beef from the island's free-roaming cattle is also a good bet. Some of the best restaurants are tiny, side-street cafes, where the prato do dia (dish of the day) and a glass of local wine will only set you back 5 euros. Spanish settlers brought grape plants to the islands at the end of the 15th century, and much of the original viniculture methods have been preserved, creating crisp whites and rich reds. The islands have a similar history with wine's best friend: Each island produces its own excellent regional cheese.

Slow-cooked Cozido das Furnas

Suffolk Graduate Program Prepares Next Generation of Communication Professionals

Suffolk University
College of Arts and Sciences

The latest smartphone is announced in a worldwide advertising blitz…A cancer research organization fosters an online community to help increase awareness…Facing a product recall, a pharmaceutical company launches a crisis management campaign. When organizations have important information to share, communication professionals craft the messages and develop strategies to get people talking.

These are the types of responsibilities that the Master of Arts in Communication at Suffolk University prepares graduates to take on—in companies and organizations around the world. By focusing on Integrated Marketing Communication or in Public Relations and Advertising, students explore how organizations can inform and engage their audiences.

"We truly live in an information age," explains graduate program director Gloria Boone. "The ability to present clear, timely and persuasive messaging – to customers, employees and the general public – is essential to grow and succeed. Our graduates shape the communication efforts that businesses and nonprofit organizations need to stay ahead."

With the proliferation of new technologies and social marketing, the field of communication is changing rapidly. As a result, creative professionals with skills in these areas are in high demand.

These new technologies enhance the ability of organizations to spread their messages around the neighborhood and across the globe. Yumiko Bilic, who earned her MA in Communication at Suffolk, is a Senior Account Executive at Text 100, a global communications agency. She helps companies like IBM, Cisco and British Airways develop global PR and social media campaigns. "As a liaison between US, European and Asian Pacific work teams," she says, "I help localize global strategies and ensure that overarching messaging remains consistent across different languages and cultures."

Suffolk's communication program features small classes taught by nationally recognized faculty, including Fulbright scholars, award-winning authors, former corporate executives and communication consultants. As Bilic describes, "The practical experience of the faculty made a big difference. We learned theory, but always in the context of how it would apply to real situations in the real world."

Like Bilic, some graduates pursue careers at advertising and PR agencies. Others work in corporate, financial, government, medical, high-tech, non-profit or entrepreneurial settings. For instance, recent graduate Greg Clements is a media research manager at Media Behavior Institute, a New York City firm that helps its clients identify how to best reach prospective customers.

Suffolk's Master of Arts in Communication program is offered full-time or part-time at the university's downtown Boston campus. All classes are offered in the late afternoon and evening, providing a practical option for professionals seeking to build their credentials while working full-time.

To learn more about Suffolk's graduate program in communication, attend the next Graduate Information Session at the Omni Parker House Hotel in Boston on November 28, at 6:30pm. To reserve your place, contact the Office of Graduate Admission at 617.573.8302 or visit www.suffolk.edu/starthere.

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Certificate programs are fast-becoming the popular choice for adult learners. At University College you can earn a certificate on campus, online or in a blended program and reach your education goals while working full time.

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Two innovative and collaborative non-credit certificates have just been added in Emergency Management, combining the expertise and resources of the DelValle Institute for Emergency Preparedness with the academic programs in post-disaster reconstruction at UMass Boston.

Undergraduate Certificates

Study online or on-campus to earn a certificate in the burgeoning field of gerontology or on-campus for a certificate in Information Technology. If you're interested in putting your bilingual skills to work, register for an online certificate in Spanish/English translation.

Graduate Certificates

On the graduate level, confront the challenges of worldwide populations impacted by disasters through a certificate program in Global Post Disaster Studies.

Or consider an 18-credit certificate program in Women's Leadership in a Global Perspective that offers six interconnected courses that provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the development of women's leadership around the world. Since the certificate is offered entirely online, students can study from anywhere, while interacting with women from a variety of countries.

If you want to be among tomorrow's education leaders, sign up for an online certificate program in Instructional Technology Design, where you'll confront the increasing challenges created by the high technology training needs of academic, corporate, and public educators.

The five-course Applied Behavioral Analysis for Special Populations Certificate will meet the coursework requirement to sit for the national Behavior Analyst Certification Board licensing examination.

Degree Programs

If you've never completed your bachelor's degree, now could be the time. The online Bachelor of Arts in Community Studies will help you finally reach that goal.

Stretch the powers of your mind in an online Master of Arts program in Critical and Creative Thinking, where you'll confront ambiguous and complex problems, reflect on them and bring insights to the surface. You'll learn the process of placing ideas and practices in tension with alternatives, and to scrutinize and evaluate the assumptions, reasoning, and evidence that underlie decision-making and problem solving.

If an advanced degree in gerontology is your goal, explore the online Master of Science degree track in Management of Aging Services.

The choices are many. No matter what your goals, your schedule or your aspirations, University College has the Education that Fits. Come explore the possibilities at uc.umb.edu/metro.

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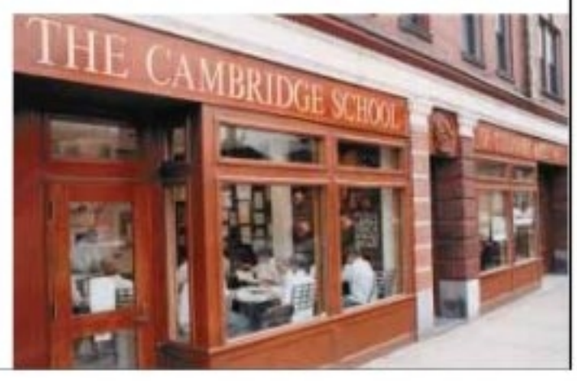

Passion Comes To Life at The Cambridge School of Culinary Arts

Where are you happier—behind a desk, or in the kitchen? Have you always felt that you were born to file and fax, or might your true calling involve something a bit more expressive? If food is your passion, pursue your new career at The Cambridge School of Culinary Arts.

Established by Chef Roberta Dowling in 1974, The Cambridge School of Culinary Arts seeks to stimulate the senses as it helps students discover beauty and complexity within the world of food. Students are encouraged to explore all aspects of fine food and its preparation as they learn to produce dishes that demonstrate technical and scientific mastery. The education received at The CSCA provides each student with a lasting legacy of culinary knowledge that reflects common sense, diversity of culinary expression, and above all—the notion that food is a celebration of life.

Four unique program offerings make up the curriculum at The CSCA: the 37-week Professional Chef's and Professional Pastry programs, as well as the 16-week Culinary Certificate and Certificate Pastry programs. All programs place strong emphasis on both modern and classical culinary techniques and are taught by a talented staff of chef instructors from around the world. Pastry classes are highlighted by the addition of instructor and Program Director Delphin Gomes, New England's only French Master Pastry Chef. A flexible day and evening schedule allows students to work full- or part-time while attending, and class size is limited to allow for intimate, hands-on instruction. Applications for January enrollment are now being accepted for all programs.

In addition to culinary training programs, The CSCA offers an extensive recreational program for food enthusiasts. These one-time classes cover a wide range of subject matter and are designed to introduce the amateur chef to the world of specialty cooking. Whether you want to impress your friends and family with a gourmet meal, perfect your pie crust, or discover the secrets of a well-seasoned sauce—there are classes to meet every need.

Master Pastry Chef Delphin Gomes is leading a pastry excursion to France in March 2013. The trip visits culinary, cultural, historical, and religious sites in Lyon, Epernay, Beaune, Versailles, and Paris. Details, trip itinerary, and registration information can be found at **www.cambridgeculinary.com.**

The CSCA is currently accepting applications for all January 2013 certificate and professional programs, with classes starting on January 8, 2013.

For more detailed information about these and many other program offerings, or to sign up for an Information Session on the evening of Thursday, November 8th at 6:00pm, please visit **www.cambridgeculinary.com** or call **617.354.2020.**

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Industry Links to the College

NECB has a legacy of partnership with and service to the banking and financial industry.

Founded by the New England banking community in 1909 (as the American Banking Institute), the school's sole purpose was to equip banking employees with the specialized skills, insight and knowledge required to remain competitive and increase profitability. For generations, the school partnered with the region's top financial institutions. Then, in 1985, it received full college accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, the only bank-sponsored educational institution in America to become accredited as a degree-granting college.

Two years after the launch of its degree programs online, the school's finance curriculum was adapted by the University of California in Berkley for its post-graduates in banking and investment management sectors.

Today, NECB's "*by* the industry *for* the industry" approach is stronger than ever, with a choice of degree programs that are scheduled flexibly and priced affordably. In fact, NECB was named the most affordable private college in New England by the U.S. Department of Education in 2011.

Also, New England businesses and financial institutions still play an active role in the College's success. Employees of these Corporate Partners receive a significant tuition discount at NECB and may qualify for tuition reimbursement their employers.

NECB Has a Variety of Degree Programs

Whether at the undergraduate or graduate level, courses at NECB have a real-world, career-focused orientation. Master's degree programs include the MBA, Master of Science in Finance and the nation's first Master's in Business Ethics & Compliance.

Bachelor's and associate's degrees include concentrations in Accounting, Banking and Finance, General Business, Management and Marketing. The curricula for these programs were designed by industry experts and are kept fresh and relevant to keep up with the fast-moving changes in the financial and business world. All programs are delivered in an online format designed to meet the needs of working adults who must balance their studies with work and family obligations.

Connection to Industry Experts

One of NECB's greatest assets is its faculty. Instructors at NECB come from a blend of seasoned business practitioners and academic researchers. The faculty ensures that NECB students receive instruction in both theoretical and practical approaches to the knowledge they will need to succeed in the workplace.

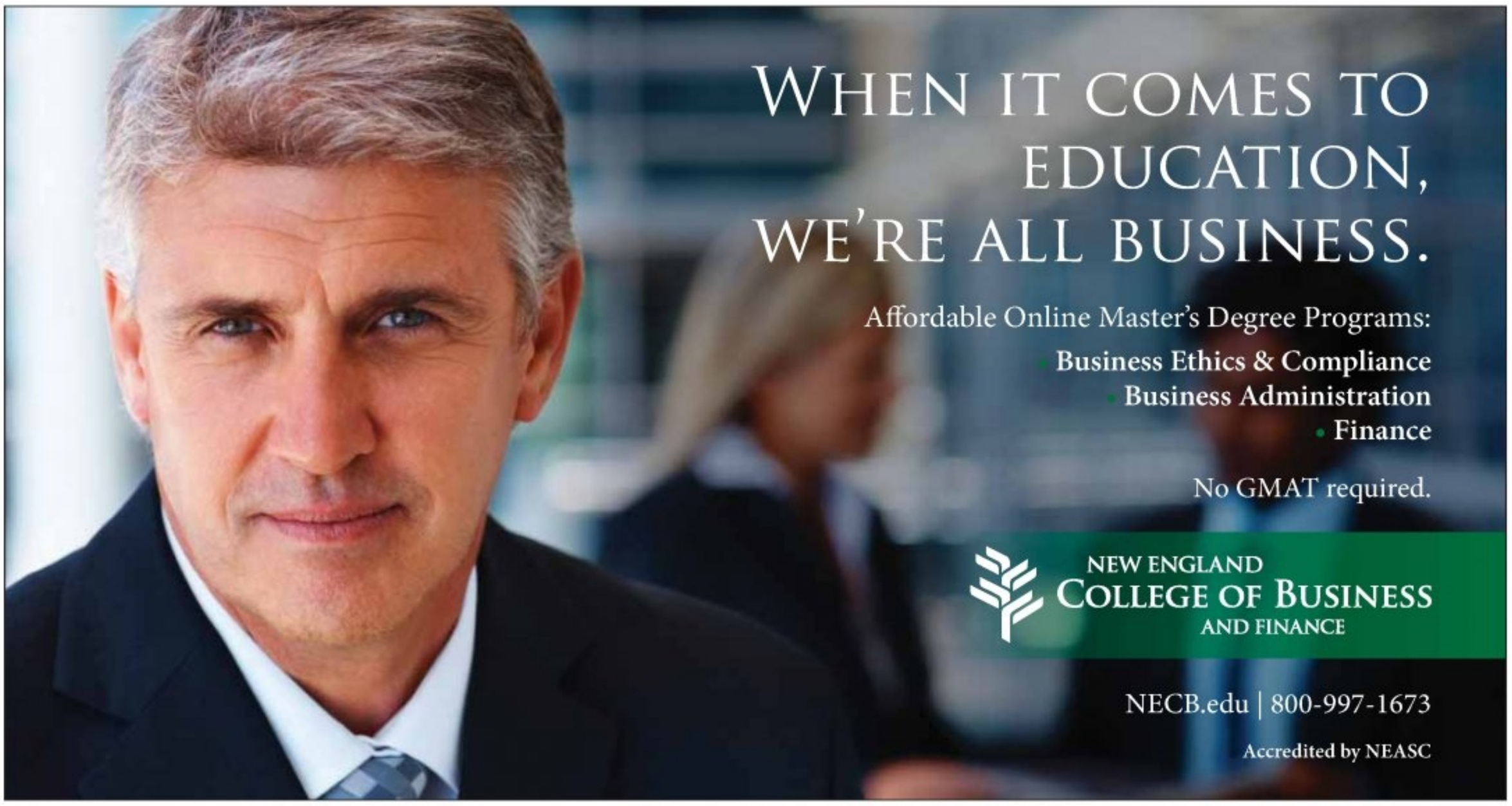
In addition to focused coursework, NECB offers its students opportunities for networking and professional development through public programs such as the Business of Tomorrow lecture series. A recent panel discussion featured compliance officers from Elizabeth Arden (NASDAQ: RDEN) and Massachusetts Credit Union League.

Helping to steer the academic and administrative facets of the College are the Board of Trustees and the MBA Advisory Board. These important groups are made up of successful businesspeople, public sector leaders and academics including a former U.S. Secretary of Education, a Harvard University dean, a former Massachusetts Attorney General, bank presidents and other financial executives.

Learn more about NECB

To learn how NECB might help you advance in your business or financial career, visit necb.edu or call 800-997-1673.

NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND FINANCE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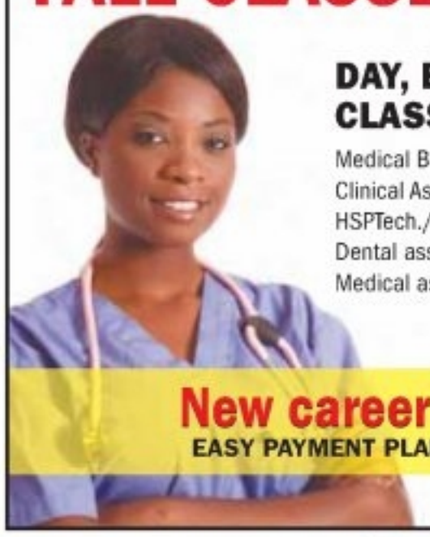

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THE Steppingstone FOUNDATION

Source for city data: *Getting to the Finish Line*, Northeastern University, Center for Labor Market Studies, 2008

THE Steppingstone FOUNDATION

The Steppingstone Academy Prepares Boston Students for College Success

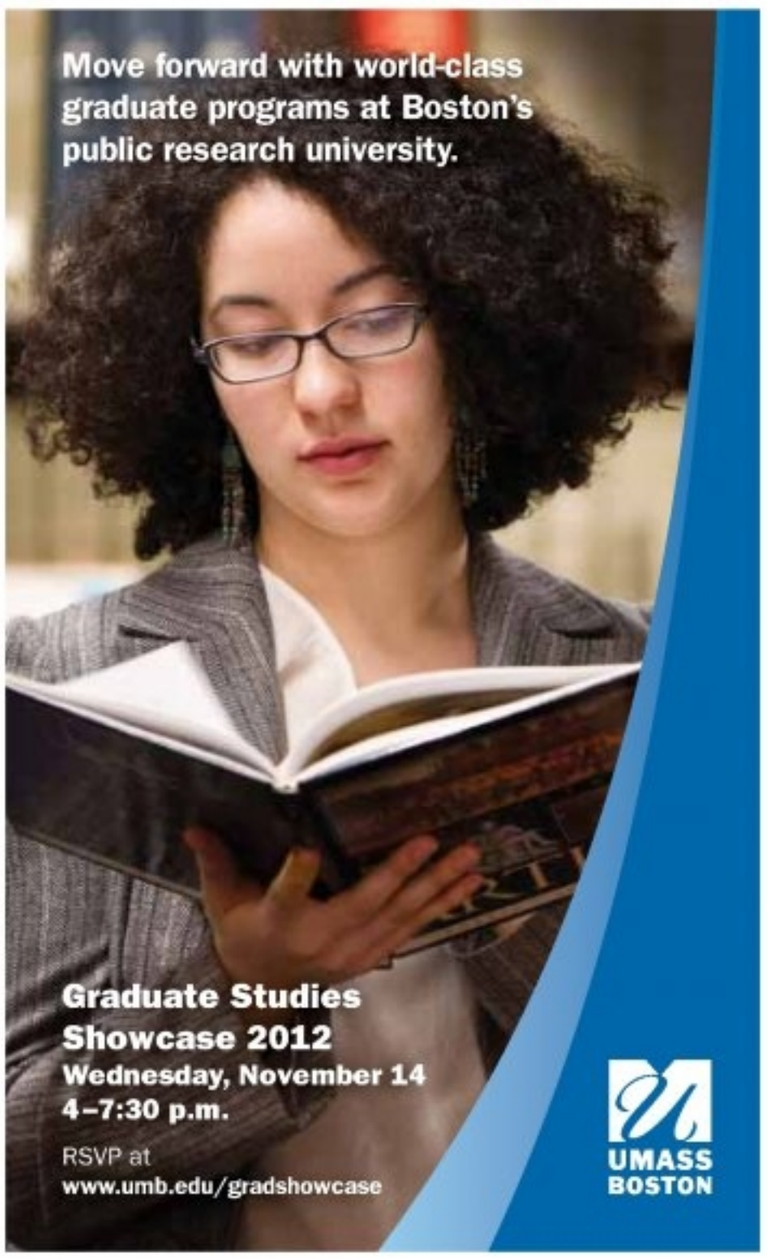
Hard work and a commitment to academics are paying off for Vanessa Medor, a senior at Boston Latin School and a resident of Boston's Dorchester neighborhood. There, she is the president of the Girls Group and is a board officer for the Spoken Word club. She is also an excellent student. Academic opportunities began taking root when she was in fifth grade and applied for The Steppingstone Academy, a free after-school and summer academic program that prepares academically motivated students, who would not otherwise have the opportunity, for success at Boston's competitive independent and public exam schools, and eventually college.

Vanessa, a 2007 graduate of The Steppingstone Academy, began the 14-month academic component of the program the summer before sixth grade while she was a student at Boston Renaissance Charter School. She attended Steppingstone classes after school on Wednesdays, in addition to Saturdays during the school year, followed by a second six-week summer session before entering Boston Latin School in the seventh grade. "The program is challenging, but the advantages you gain are so valuable," she said.

After she graduated from Steppingstone's academic component, she then became eligible for its wide-ranging support services, which include weekly tutoring, social/emotional counseling, and extensive college readiness offerings, including steeply discounted SAT preparation classes, college tours, financial aid advising, and course selection assistance. Through Steppingstone's summer opportunities program, this past summer Vanessa participated in the July Experience at Davidson College in North Carolina, a pre-college summer enrichment program for rising high school juniors and seniors.

Statistics support Steppingstone's success. Of the Scholars who complete the academic component, 99% graduate from high school and 91% enroll in a four-year college. Vanessa's academic interests include science and political science, which may help her decide what to study as she begins to think about college plans.

Steppingstone accepts applications from motivated Boston students in grades four and five. The application deadline is January 2, 2013. For more information, families may call 617-423-6300 or visit www.tsf.org.



Opinion

MATT BURKE
SPORTS EDITOR

SOX SHOULD MAKE PLAY FOR JOSH HAMILTON

The Red Sox have quite the dilemma on their hands as baseball's hot stove season approaches scorch status. For the first time in a long time, they have a boatload of cash to spend. The issue? There's no one to available to spend it on, or so it seems.

All of the big-name free agents (Josh Hamilton, Zach Greinke, B.J. Upton) have their fair share of well-documented issues. Conservative fans say that dropping $25 million per season on a troubled but talented player like Hamilton is fiscal insanity.

But here's the thing: Big-time baseball has and always will be a madhouse of spending and the Red Sox have and always will be one of the looniest members of the shack.

Though the Red Sox have lowered expectations to an alarming level over the past two seasons, that does not mean that they suddenly need to be a hardball also-ran when it comes to dishing out cash.

Make no mistake, money still wins in this sport. The AL champion Tigers were a top five spending team in MLB this past season. The World Series champion Giants were in the top 10. Crack on the bloated payroll of the Yankees all you want, but they haven't missed the playoffs since 2008.

The Red Sox shouldn't whip up a repeat of the 2010 offseason, when they brought in Adrian Gonzalez AND Carl Crawford. But, looking back, risking $20 million on just one of the two would not have been nearly as catastrophic. It would have been a calculated baseball risk.

The "fiscally irresponsible" label that GM Ben Cherington wants to avoid is fine. All general managers, whether small- or big-market, should look to spend wisely.

Still, when a player like Hamilton, who has a .314 batting average and has averaged 33 homers and 107 RBIs over the past three seasons goes on the open market, a team with pockets like Boston owes it to its fanbase to at least look at potentially signing that talent.

Hamilton is not Gonzalez, he's not Crawford and he's not Josh Beckett. He's his own man.

There is as much beer in northeast Texas as there is in Boston and Hamilton has built up enough goodwill over the past few years for people to truly believe that baseball is his first love. He is in the prime of his career and the Red Sox desperately need another big bat to compliment David Ortiz in the middle of their lineup.

If one of these mid-market teams becomes fiscally insane and gives Hamilton a Godfather offer, so be it. If the Yankees decide to go nuts and blow everyone else out of the water, so be it.

All I'm asking is for is the Red Sox to remember who they are if everyone else skimps with Hamilton: the team with the second biggest pocketbooks in baseball and a team that should never be afraid to take a risk once in a while for a shot at getting back to the postseason.

*– **Matt Burke** is the Sports Editor at Metro Boston. Follow him on Twitter @BurkeMetroBOS*

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send 100-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

Quoted

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3

In the news

'Crazy' Bobby

David Ortiz responded yesterday to former manager Bobby Valentine's comments last month.

"After he went on national TV to say what he said, he sent me a text message trying to tell me that it was the media trying to change things," Ortiz said. "I did not respond to the message and I said to myself, this guy must have some mental issues or needs medicine or something?"

Fashion. Police

▶ Patriots quarterback Tom Brady attended the Aerosmith concert in Boston yesterday.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Tom Brady puts bye week to bad use

Tom Brady attended yesterday's Aerosmith concert in Boston decked out in what appeared to be frameless glasses, a white t-shirt and a new hair-do. The fashion trend-setter will be back in action for the Patriots this Sunday when New England hosts the Bills.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Andrew Luck

Patriots-Colts flexed to late afternoon

The intrigue of rookie sensation Andrew Luck and the possibility of a renewed rivalry of two of the most successful franchises of the past decade has led to the NFL and CBS announcing that the Nov. 18 game between the Colts and Patriots will be moved from 1 p.m. to 4:25 p.m.

Luck and the Colts are suddenly in the AFC playoff picture as they have the same 5-3 record as the Pats.

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Magic number

12 The Pats have won an average of 12.8 games over the past five seasons. They will need to go 7-1 to get to 12 wins in the second half.

Patriots preparing for second half of season coming off bye

All eyes will be on secondary ◗ Gronkowski's biggest challenge will be staying healthy ◗ Texans, 49ers games highlight second-half schedule

Three key players and three key games to watch in the second half of the Patriots' 2012 season:

Three key players

Aqib Talib
The Patriots' trade for Bucs cornerback Aqib Talib means two things: They know they have issues in the secondary, and they're willing to do whatever it takes to fix them. Sure he's had some off-field issues in the past, but Talib could immediately make an impact at corner for New England in the second half of the season. Hey, if he turns around to defend a pass he's already the best one they have.

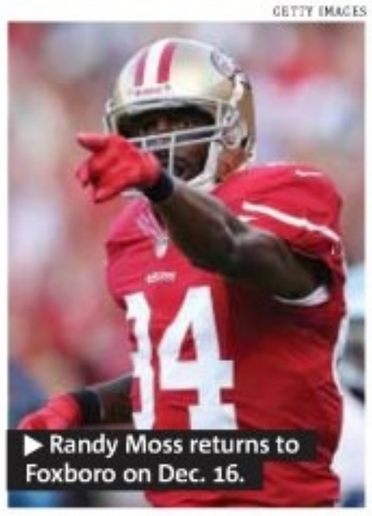
Rob Gronkowski
Let's face it; the earth is a better place when Rob Gronkowski is spiking footballs through it. Gronk has been banged up through the first half of the season and we've seen the Patriots offense suffer at times because of it. Same goes for Aaron Hernandez, but a healthy Gronk means the No. 1 red zone weapon is back doing his thing.

Vince Wilfork
Wilfork is the heart and soul of the Patriots defense and they'll certainly rely on him down the stretch. He's still the best nose tackle in the game, and that's apparent when you see him making plays while taking on two linemen at once. There's nobody more important on the line, and that's where it starts for New England's 'D.'

Three key games

Nov. 22 at New York — Thanksgiving is already one of the best days of the year. It's a time to spend with family and friends while stuffing your face. But what if you can have all that and watch your favorite team beat up on its rival later that night? Now that's gravy. The Patriots hope that's how it goes on Thanksgiving night.

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Randy Moss returns to Foxboro on Dec. 16.

Dec. 10 vs. Texans — The Pats host the Texans in what could be a battle for the No. 1 overall seed in the AFC on Monday Night Football. Can the Pats run defense stop Arian Foster? Can the secondary contain big tight end Owen Daniels? And oh, Houston has the best run defense in the AFC.

Dec. 16 vs. 49ers — It doesn't get any easier for New England six days after it plays Houston. The 49ers currently own the No. 1 ranked rushing attack and No. 2 ranked pass defense. They've feasted on both the Bills and Jets so far, combining for a 79-3 advantage. Wow.

JIMMY TOSCANO
sports@metro.us

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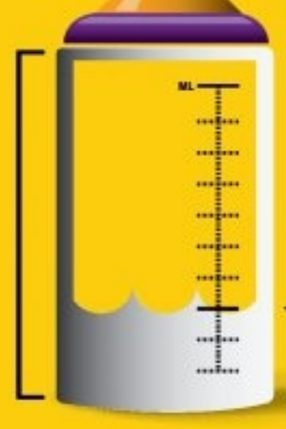

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